AND MINES (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) to (c) During the visit of High Level Indian Delegation to USSR in July, 1988 the need for timely supply of equipment for meeting the commissioning schedule of Visakhapatnam Steel Project was discussed with the Soviet Authorities. It was agreed that every effort would be made to expedite supply of the equipment.

Food Processing Industries

2246. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of applications have been received from multinationals for starting food processing industries;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to encourage multinational companies for starting the food processing industries; and

(d) if so, the details of its impact on the growth of indigenous industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) 29 Indian companies have been accorded approval for technical/financial collaboration with foreign companies for manufacture of processed foods during 1985, 1986 and 1987.

(c) Government's policy is that foreign collaboration—financial or technical—is not ordinarily necessary for consumer products. However, foreign collaboration for manufacture of consumer products is considered on merits if such collaboration is justified taking into consideration factors such as the nature of technology involved, availability of indigenous technology, potential for export earnings and the like.

(d) Does not arise.

Registered Unemployed in the Country

2247. SHRI SUKOMAL SEN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of registered unemployed in the country as on date;

(b) the break up of men and women; and

(c) the State-wise break up according to their educational qualifications?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY): (a) and (b) The number of registered job-seekers on the live registers of employment exchanges in the country, not all of whom are necessarily unemployed, as on 31st May, 1988 are as under:—

(In thousands)

Men	Women	Total
24,065	5,231	29,296

(c) The latest available information relating to 30th June, 1987 is given in enclosed statement. [*See* Appendix CXLVII, Annexure No. 91].

Possession of Plots in Rohini Sector 16, Block A, Pocket-4

2248. SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 510 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 27th February, 1987 and state:

(a) what are the reasons that the plots in Sector 16, Block A, Pocket 4, of Rohini Complex which were allotted through draw of lots in 1984, have not yet been given possession by Delhi Development Authority;